

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of this response and reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified patent application are respectfully requested. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently with the present response.

Claims 1-23 and 25-45 were rejected in the office action. Claims 1, 8, 10, 18, 26, 35, 38, 44 and 45 have been amended herein. Claims 24, 36, 37 and 43 have been canceled. Claims 46 and 47 have been added. Therefore, following entry of the present amendment, claims 1-23, 25-35, 38-42 and 44-47 will be pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,697,166 to Warnagiris in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,568,185 to Yoshikazu. Also, claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Warnagiris in view of Yoshikazu and U.S. Patent No. 6,014,386 to Abraham. In addition, claims 10-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Warnagiris in view of Yoshikazu, Abraham, and U.S. Patent No. 6,452,482 to Cern. Claims 18-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Cern in view of Yoshikazu. Finally, claims 25-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Cern in view of Yoshikazu.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Previl for conducting an in-person interview with applicant's representative. Although agreement as to specific claim amendment was not reached, the discussion with Examiner Previl was helpful in facilitating and progressing the prosecution of the present application.

Briefly, the present invention communicates data signals over a power line and, in one embodiment, includes a transformer 902 that induces an AC current from the high voltage

carried by the center conductor 703 of the power line cable. The induced current is used to power a transceiver 903 that facilitates communication of the data signals via the power line.

Applicant has amended the claims to make explicit that which was previously implicit, *i.e.*, that the present invention is capable of inducing a voltage from a **high voltage** power signal. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification, and particularly “high voltage” is defined “to describe voltage levels on an electric power system that are higher than typically provided to the end user.” (Specification – page 9, lines 6-8).

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,697,166 to Warnagiris in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,568,185 to Yoshikazu. Specifically, the office action alleges that although Warnagiris fails to disclose inducing an voltage from a power signal carried by a power line and powering a transceiver with the induced AC voltage, Yoshikazu (column 5, lines 5-8) discloses these features such that combination of Warnagiris and Yoshikazu obviates the present invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees because, in part, Yoshikazu and Warnagiris are directed to low voltage levels available to the end user and not the high voltage levels contemplated by the present invention.

As recited in column 5, lines 1-8, Yoshikazu discloses that a “transceiver 10 receives electrical power via a power cord 34 from a 13.8 volt direct-current power supply, such as from a battery pack, or automobile battery . . . [or] from a transformer/rectifier power supply circuit 34, which receives common domestic alternating-current power via a line cord and plug.” (Yoshikazu – column 5, lines 1-8) (citations omitted). In other words, Yoshikazu discloses a conventional low voltage, end user power supply that simply receives DC power directly, or just converts **low voltage** AC power available from a wall outlet to DC power.

Therefore, Yoshikazu teaches a direct connection of low voltage power to the power supply, and not an inductive connection of *high voltage* power (as recited in the amended claims) as with the present invention. This is to be expected because Yoshikazu's use of low voltage power permits the use of a direct connection to the power line, unlike the present invention's use of high voltage power which uses inductive coupling to more safely provide power to the transceiver. As a result, the motivation to inductively couple in Yoshikazu is absent because of its use of low power to the transceiver. Similarly, Warnagiris lacks any teaching or suggestion of operating on a high voltage and/or over a high voltage power line.

Therefore, contrary to the contention in the office action, neither Warnagiris nor Yoshikazu, alone or in combination, teach or suggest either inducing a voltage or powering the transceiver from an induced high voltage AC power signal.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Warnagiris in view of Yoshikazu. Similarly, for the same reasons discussed above, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Warnagiris in view of Yoshikazu and Abraham, of claims 10-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Warnagiris in view of Yoshikazu, Abraham, of claims 18-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Cern in view of Yoshikazu, and of claims 25-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Cern in view of Yoshikazu.

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner cannot allow the present application for any reason, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney, Vincent J. Roccia at (215) 564-8946, to discuss resolution of any remaining issues.

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